

**Carroll, Rhonda**

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**From:** RICHARD KROMBEL <krombel.fam@snet.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 8:50 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** I support HB 5403 on pedestrian & cyclist safety

To the Judiciary Committee:

Please support HB 5403. I am 64 years old, and have been cycling for many years mostly as a means of commuting to/from work. While most motorists are courteous, there are those who drive as if the lane in which I am traveling, belongs exclusively to them. In warmer weather, some open their windows and yell loudly to see if they can startle me. And there are a few cases where those who are emerging from a driveway or side street fail to see me because they're looking for a motor vehicle, not a cyclist. There have been a few close calls in these latter situations. Once I was hit by a young motorist who was making an illegal U-Turn and failed to see me.

Cycling is healthy, good for the environment, and economical. But cyclists, especially those who must use busy streets without bike lanes, need greater protection and the force of the law behind them. I have read many cases of motor vehicles striking cyclists which resulted in no charges being filed.

As our planet warms, an aging population moves back into urban areas, and people try to live longer by maintaining a healthy lifestyle, cyclists as well as pedestrians need more respect and protection from motorists. This bill is a very needed step in that direction.

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